(d) whether Government are considering to grant concessions before or after implementation of the Forest Act, in areas where industry was already functioning; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T. R. BAALU): (a) and (b) Under the provisions of the Indian Forest Act, 1927, the power for reservation and de-reservation of forest areas vests with the State Government. As per the provisions of the Act, the notification for declaration of reserved/de-reserved forest is published in the official Gazette. Thereafter, the translation of the notification of reserved forest in local vernacular is caused to be published in every town and village in the neighbourhood of the forest.

(c) and (d) Under section 4 to 20 of the Indian Forest Act, 1927, a detailed procedure has been laid out for preferment, enquiry and settlement of rights & claims, before an area is finally notified as reserved forest.

(d) Does not arise.

Vehicular pollution in Delhi

958. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that vehicular pollution is going on unabated in Delhi, despite introducing CNG;

(b) whether it is a fact that vehicular pollution in Delhi has increased from 64 per cent to 72 per cent in the past ten years, as reported in the Hindustan Times dated the 27th December, 2001; and

(c) if so, what preventive measures Government have taken so far to check vehicular pollution, in view of the fact that the number of vehicles in Delhi is likely to increase further in 2002-2003?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T. R. BAALU): (a) and (b) According to the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), the ambient air quality trends in Delhi indicate the increase in Sulphur dioxide (SO_2), Nitrogen dioxide

(NO_2) and Suspended Particulate Matter (SPM) concentrations from 1991 to 1995, whereas decreasing trends have been observed from 1995 to 2001 even though there is an increase in vehicle population and fuel consumption.

(c) To check vehicular pollution, preventive measures taken by the Government so far include the following:

— Phase out of leaded petrol,

— Sale of only pre-mixed 2-T Oil in petrol stations,

— Supply of petrol with reduced benzene content of 1% maximum,

— Supply of fuel (petrol as well as diesel) with reduced sulphur content of 0.05% maximum,

— Adoption of Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) and Liquified Petroleum Gas (LPG) as auto fuels,

— Adoption of more stringent emission norms known as Bharat Stage-II norms akin to Euro-II norms for registration of new vehicles.

Forestry projects in Uttar Pradesh

959. PROF. M. M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of forestry projects being implemented in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) the total amount of the funds allocated and spent on these projects during the Ninth Five Year Plan; and

(c) the details of achievements made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T. R. BAALU): (a) The following major Centrally Sponsored Afforestation Schemes of Ministry of Environment and Forests are being implemented in Uttar Pradesh:

(i) Integrated Afforestation and Eco-Development Project Scheme (IAEPS)